

of possible impeachment offenses by the President.

Furthermore, President Clinton's own brother, Roger, issued warnings to Members of Congress when he told CNN's Larry King, "Some of the political people had best watch themselves because of the old glass house story. Be very careful."

As predicted by these individuals, in recent weeks, including this morning, several of our colleagues have been subjected to vicious partisan attacks, via the news media, by individuals who are clearly attempting to intimidate Members of Congress in the wake of the Starr report.

I take serious offense to what is obviously a scorched earth campaign. Mr. Speaker, we will never be intimidated by these scorched earth tactics. We will not back down from our constitutional responsibilities and we will not cower from the White House attacks. We will do what is right.

CONGRESS SHOULD ACT RESPECTFUL AND DIGNIFIED DURING WHITE HOUSE CRISIS AND CONTINUE TO CONDUCT THE PEOPLE'S BUSINESS

(Mr. ROEMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROEMER. Mr. Speaker, when I was elected by the people of Indiana and sent to this distinguished body, my very first vote was on whether to send young people into harm's way, into the Persian Gulf, on war. And this body conducted itself with the utmost dignity, civility and respect towards one another and respected their differing viewpoints, clapping for Members even though they may have disagreed.

Now, when it comes to respect and hard work, I immediately think of our chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HENRY HYDE). He has worked hard, worked with me through my 8 years that I have been here serving with him.

I hope that this body can continue to be together in a civil, distinguished, thoughtful, deliberative manner to get to the bottom of what happened in the White House, but also do the people's business and balance the budget, reform education and save Social Security.

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THE EMPEROR WITH NO CLOTHES

(Mr. PITTS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, this morning I want to share a children's story that has been on my mind for the last seven months which we have all read to our children but I think it is instructive today.

Once upon a time, there was an Emperor who loved his kingly clothes, in

which he paraded through the palace and through the land so that all could admire him. He was very vain. His closest aides and followers were always nearby to congratulate him on how dashing he looked, how popular he was with his loyal subjects and how good his leadership was for the land.

One day, however, the Emperor began parading through the land with his clothes off. He even assured himself and his followers that he was in fact wearing clothes. They just could not see them, because only stupid people could not see the clothes.

Because they did not want to be thought of as stupid, his lawyers and followers and supporters agreed, "Oh, yes, he must be wearing clothes."

And so they trumpeted throughout the land, "The Emperor really is technically dressed but the unenlightened among you just cannot see the fine threads from which his garments are made." They even attacked those who sought to expose the truth.

And so it continues today, Mr. Speaker.

MANAGED CARE REFORM

(Mr. GREEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN. Mr. Speaker, while we know there are lots of other issues swirling around the Capitol these days, I think it is important that we focus on other issues that really affect the American people. Last week, the Tuesday before we came back into session, four Members of Congress from the Houston area met with over 100 people to discuss an important issue that is facing the American public. That public meeting was about managed care reform and the Republican majority's misnamed bill that we passed earlier this year, the Patient Protection Act. This was the first public hearing held on the bill since our committee that I serve on did not have any hearings on the bill that passed this House. That hearing confirmed what we have been saying for months, that families in managed care want and need some reform this year. They do not want a sham bill like the Patient Protection Act that does more for insurance companies than patients and they do not want a bill that actually preempts Texas law that was passed by our legislature last year. They want a patients' bill of rights that is not right because it is a Democratic bill but because it contains meaningful reforms to complement the State laws that are passed.

Eliminate the gag rules, provide choice and also allow people to go to adequate emergency rooms without having to call their insurance company first.

TWO DIFFERENT VIEWS REGARDING CONSTITUTION

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1

minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, today, yes, the anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States in Philadelphia in 1787 should not be an occasion for partisanship. However, we are forced to confront the reality of how liberals and conservatives have two very different views of the Constitution and about the history of the United States.

Conservatives have a novel belief that the Constitution actually means what it says. Liberals, on the other hand, are fond of calling the Constitution a "living document" that, quote-unquote, evolves over time. The liberal view of the Constitution allows them to interpret the Constitution any way they choose.

Conservatives look at the Constitution and believe that its explicit prohibitions on what the Federal Government is allowed to do are a fundamental safeguard of our liberty and protection against too much government.

Liberals look at the Constitution and believe that the Federal Government can get involved in every aspect of your life, always, of course with the misguided belief and justification that it is "for your own good."

Two different views, views with profound and differing consequences for our liberty.

SOCIAL SECURITY

(Mr. ADAM SMITH of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ADAM SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, this September as always we face some very difficult budget decisions, but we will not even be able to get to those budget decisions if we do not first address the numbers honestly.

Right now we have all heard about the supposed surplus that we have over the next 10 years, \$1.6 trillion, and we have heard dozens of different ideas for how to spend that money. The trouble is that money does not exist, because all but \$31 billion of that \$1.6 trillion is really in the Social Security trust fund. It is money that we borrow and for some crazy reason consider as income. It is not income, it is money we have to pay back, plus interest.

We need to honestly assess those numbers. As we stand here today, there are a lot of different programs, a lot of different tax cuts being proposed, but if you ever hear someone say in answer to the question of how they are going to pay for it, "We're going to pay for it out of the surplus," do not let them do it.

There is no surplus. If we can address the numbers honestly, we can make wise budget decisions and we can do two very important things in this final